Date: Wed, 5 Oct 94 02:51:28 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: List
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #1095
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest   Wed, 5 Oct 94   Volume 94 : Issue 1095

Today's Topics:

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 19:38:53 GMT
From: phb@syseng1.melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)
Subject: 2-meter multimode FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-290R Mk II 2-meter SSB/CW/FM multimode, 25 w.
output, 10 memories, 2 VFOs, scan. Absolutely mint, new condition.
$500.00 brings it to your door. Very nice compact radio, but I
prefer a HF rig & transverter setup.

(|_|) Paul H. Bock, Jr. K4MSG   Internet: pbock@melpar.esys.com
 | |) Telephone: (703) 560-5000 x2062 (work)
                 (703) 882-4745   (home)

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 94 0:31:21 MDT
From: oler@ultrix.uleth.ca (Cary Oler)
Subject: Daily Summary of Solar Geophysical Activity for 03 October

/\

DAILY SUMMARY OF SOLAR GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY

03 OCTOBER, 1994

/\

(Based In-Part On SESC Observational Data)

SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY INDICES FOR 03 OCTOBER, 1994

```
!!BEGIN!! (1.0) S.T.D. Solar Geophysical Data Broadcast for DAY 276, 10/03/94
10.7 FLUX=074.2  90-AVG=078        SSN=022      BKI=6775 5443  BAI=065
BGND-XRAY=A1.0     FLU1=8.1E+06  FLU10=1.8E+04  PKI=6766 6453  PAI=062
  BOU-DEV=144,***,***,***,075,066,058,027   DEV-AVG=046 NT     SWF=00:000
 XRAY-MAX= A2.0   @ 0120UT    XRAY-MIN= A1.0   @ 2031UT   XRAY-AVG= A1.2
NEUTN-MAX= +001%  @ 0440UT   NEUTN-MIN= -003%  @ 1955UT  NEUTN-AVG= -0.9%
  PCA-MAX= +0.0DB @ 2110UT     PCA-MIN= -0.1DB @ 2055UT    PCA-AVG= -0.0DB
BOUTF-MAX=55227NT @ 0154UT   BOUTF-MIN=55158NT @ 1648UT  BOUTF-AVG=55189NT
GOES7-MAX=P:+000NT@ 0000UT   GOES7-MIN=N:+000NT@ 0000UT  G7-AVG=+073,+000,+000
GOES6-MAX=P:+123NT@ 2015UT   GOES6-MIN=E:-038NT@ 0449UT  G6-AVG=+100,+037,-006
 FLUXFCST=STD:074,074,074;SESC:074,074,074 BAI/PAI-FCST=050,035,028/060,040,030
    KFCST=3334 4444 2224 4233  27DAY-AP=015,028   27DAY-KP=1335 3322 3445 5344
 WARNINGS=*GSTRM;*AURMIDWRN
   ALERTS=**MAJSTRM
!!END-DATA!!
```

NOTE: The Effective Sunspot Number for 02 OCT 94 was 20.0.
      The Full Kp Indices for 02 OCT 94 are: 1- 0+ 1- 2+   2- 3- 2o 4+
      The 3-Hr Ap Indices for 02 OCT 94 are: 3   2   3   9   6 13   8 31
      Greater than 2 MeV Electron Fluence for 03 OCT is: 3.1E+07

SYNOPSIS OF ACTIVITY

Solar activity was very low.

Solar activity forecast: solar activity is expected to be

at very low levels.

The geomagnetic field has been at quiet to unsettled levels until 02/2230Z when activity increased to minor to severe storm levels. This activity is believed to be due to a favorably positioned recurrent coronal hole feature. The greater than 2 MeV energetic electron flux has been mostly normal to moderate. At about 03/1400Z the flux exhibited a rapid rise to peak in the high range at about 03/1600Z.

STD: A full-disk Yohkoh x-ray image showing the fairly large size of the northern polar coronal hole extension which appears to have affected geomagnetic activity over the last 24 hours, has been appended below.

Geophysical activity forecast: the geomagnetic field is expected to be at major storm conditions on day one then becoming minor storm levels the second day of the forecast. Active conditions are expected on day three.

Event probabilities 04 oct-06 oct

Class M	01/01/01
Class X	01/01/01
Proton	01/01/01
PCAF	Green

Geomagnetic activity probabilities 04 oct-06 oct

A. Middle Latitudes	
Active	20/30/30
Minor Storm	30/30/30
Major-Severe Storm	30/20/20
B. High Latitudes	
Active	20/20/30
Minor Storm	30/40/30
Major-Severe Storm	40/30/20

HF propagation conditions were below-normal to occasionally disturbed and near-useless for the high to upper-middle latitude paths and particularly those which crossed the night sectors. Lower middle and low latitude paths were also slightly below-normal with near-normal to poor propagation reported. Some geomagnetic and auroral ionospheric perturbations may have been sufficiently strong to produce VHF backscatter propagation on frequencies in excess of 100 MHz between 00:00 UTC and 09:00 UTC. Periods of strong geomagnetic

and auroral activity are expected to continue during the local night sectors and result in continued disturbed propagation conditions, particularly on transauroral or transpolar paths. Conditions may begin improving slightly over the next 24 to 36 hours, although nothing particularly substantial is expected until about 06 October. Improvements will be slow.

STD ESTIMATED CORONAL HOLE BOUNDARY LOCATIONS DERIVED FROM YOHKOH X-RAYS

VALID AT 23:30UTC 02OCT94

"!H!" = Highly probable coronal hole locations.
"!W!" = Weak x-ray emissions (possible weak coronal holes).

```
!!!
! !  DOY=276 VALID=23:30UTC 02OCT94
!H!  N58E90 N56E69 N50E57 N46E42 N35E30 N28E22 N19E16 N14E16 N11E14
!H!  N12E10 N16E09 N22E02 N23W04 N19W09 N14W11 N10W15 N05W15 N05W17 N08W20
!H!  N10W24 N09W28 N06W31 N04W34 N04W39 N06W39 N09W40 N12W39 N16W32 N19W29
!H!  N25W31 N28W35 N33W35 N34W23 N42W24 N49W23 N52W19 N58W16 N65W21 N72W31
!H!  N72W51 N68W90
! !
!H!  S86E90 S62W08 S64W41 S68W90
! !
!W!  N05W15 N05W17 N00W16 S02W17 S06W15 S08W13 S10W15 S13W15 S16W18
!W!  S18W25 S20W30 S22W37 S24W35 S28W34 S32W35 S32W28 S26W23 S22W17 S20W13
!W!  S14W11 S10W12 S08W10 S06W10 S02W11 N02W13 N05W15
! !
!W!  N11E14 N08E13 N07E11 N04E10 N02E12 S04E19 S06E22 S10E23 S16E18
!W!  S22E12 S26E12 S30E06 S32E02 S34E03 S34E11 S34E16 S28E23 S32E28 S38E32
!W!  S46E35 S48E43 S36E43 S26E37 S22E27 S13E31 S06E27 S00E25 N06E18 N11E14
!!!
```

COPIES OF JOINT USAF/NOAA SESC SOLAR GEOPHYSICAL REPORTS

REGIONS WITH SUNSPOTS. LOCATIONS VALID AT 03/2400Z OCTOBER

NMBR	LOCATION	LO	AREA	Z	LL	NN	MAG TYPE
7783	S07W20	102	0050	HSX	02	001	ALPHA
7784	S05E31	051	0100	HSX	02	001	ALPHA

REGIONS DUE TO RETURN 04 OCTOBER TO 06 OCTOBER

NMBR	LAT	LO
NONE		

LISTING OF SOLAR ENERGETIC EVENTS FOR 03 OCTOBER, 1994

BEGIN MAX END RGN LOC XRAY OP 245MHZ 10CM SWEEP
NONE

POSSIBLE CORONAL MASS EJECTION EVENTS FOR 03 OCTOBER, 1994

BEGIN MAX END LOCATION TYPE SIZE DUR II IV
NO EVENTS OBSERVED

INFERRED CORONAL HOLES. LOCATIONS VALID AT 03/2400Z

ISOLATED HOLES AND POLAR EXTENSIONS
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH CAR TYPE POL AREA OBSN
NONE VISIBLE

SUMMARY OF FLARE EVENTS FOR THE PREVIOUS UTC DAY

Date	Begin	Max	End	Xray	Op	Region	Locn	2695 MHz	8800 MHz	15.4 GHz

NO EVENTS OBSERVED.

REGION FLARE STATISTICS FOR THE PREVIOUS UTC DAY

	C	M	X	S	1	2	3	4	Total	(%)
Uncorrellated:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	000	(0.0)

Total Events: 000 optical and x-ray.

EVENTS WITH SWEEPS AND/OR OPTICAL PHENOMENA FOR THE LAST UTC DAY

Date	Begin	Max	End	Xray	Op	Region	Locn	Sweeps/Optical Observations

NO EVENTS OBSERVED.

NOTES:
All times are in Universal Time (UT). Characters preceding begin, max, and end times are defined as: B = Before, U = Uncertain, A = After. All times associated with x-ray flares (ex. flares which produce associated x-ray bursts) refer to the begin, max, and end times of the

x-rays. Flares which are not associated with x-ray signatures use the optical observations to determine the begin, max, and end times.

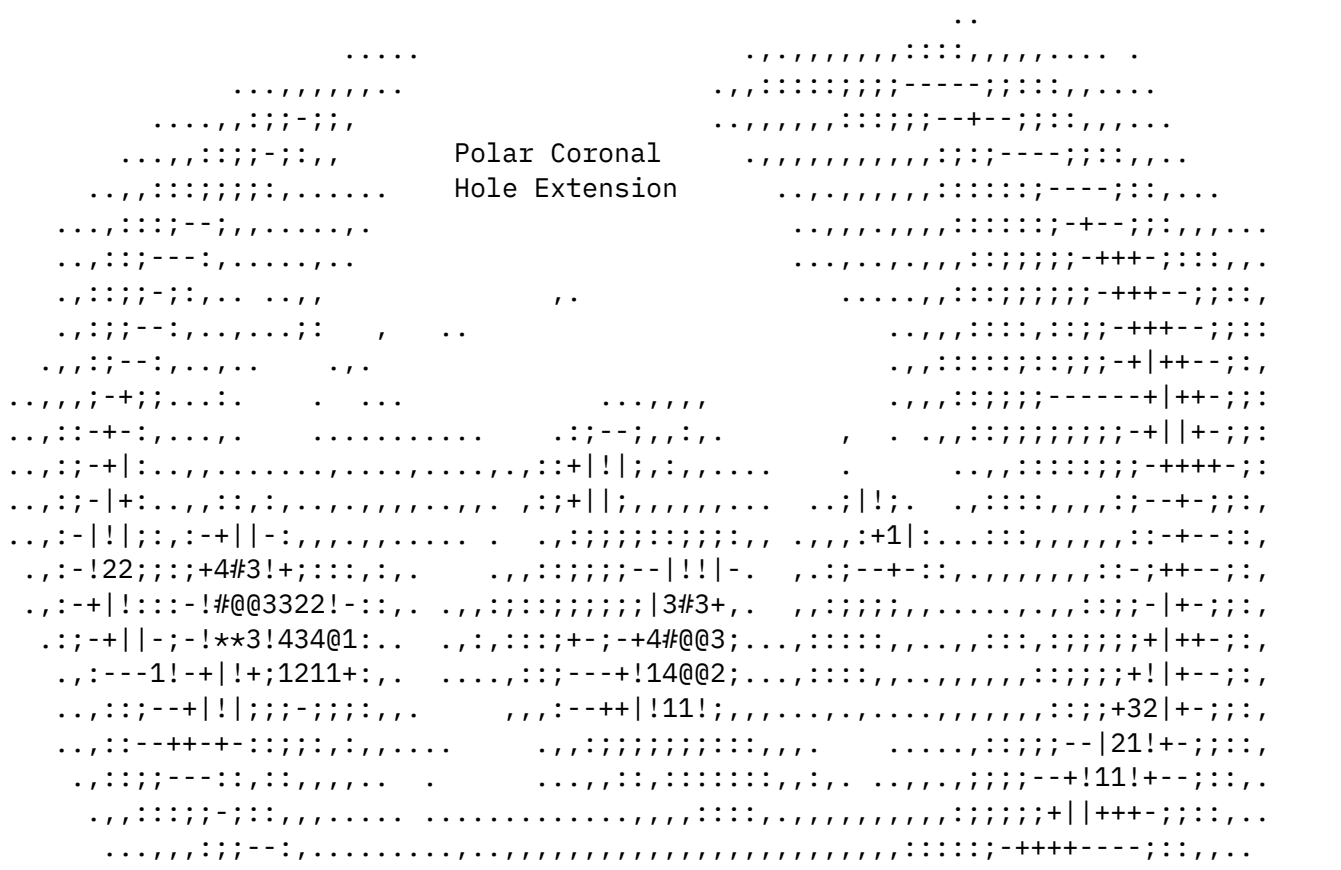
Acronyms used to identify sweeps and optical phenomena include:

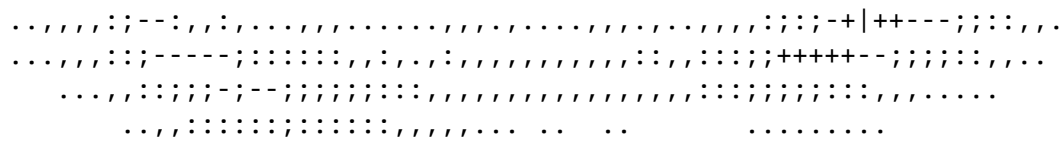
II	= Type II Sweep Frequency Event
III	= Type III Sweep
IV	= Type IV Sweep
V	= Type V Sweep
Continuum	= Continuum Radio Event
Loop	= Loop Prominence System,
Spray	= Limb Spray,
Surge	= Bright Limb Surge,
EPL	= Eruptive Prominence on the Limb.

SPECIAL INSERT: YOHKOH FULL-DISK X-RAY IMAGE

02 October 1994, 23:20 UTC

North





South

KEY: East and west limbs are to the left and right respectively. Emission
strength, from minimum to maximum are coded in the following way:

[space] . , : ; - + | ! 1 2 3 4 * # @

Units used are arbitrary, for illustrative purposes. Get "showasc.zip"
from "pub/solar/Software" at the anonymous FTP site: ftp.uleth.ca
(IP # 142.66.3.29) to view these images on VGA screens. Remove
all but the image data before typing "showasc filename".

** End of Daily Report **

Date: 5 Oct 94 14:55:00 GMT
From: pve@dg13.cec.BE (VEKINIS Peter)
Subject: DXCC - Time for change : messages from DX circuit FYI

ALL,
this is my original message. Obviously the topic is hot. Please read it and
discuss it as you like.

Peter, KC1QF
pve@dg13.cec.be

==========

-> This is my original message.

==========

I read with interest the messages to and fro concerning Scarborough reef. I
am amazed that people are going to sit down and talk about this forever (it
seems).

The DXCC doesnt have much of a policy. Lets face it, alot of rules are
arbitrary. I mean, the 225 mile rule? the 75mile rule? They dont apply
everywhere, do they? Why 75 or 225, Why not 10, or 1000. Whats going to
happen next?

When there is enough pressure to have new countries, will they lower it to 50 mile separation through intervening states or 10 miles or what? Perhaps 225 miles is too much; maybe they should do it 100 miles. Then we will instantly have another 100 'countries' and so on. Even as the rules stand, why is SV5 a new DXCC, when an Island off Ireland isnt. SV5 sure as hell isnt 225 miles away, is it? And so on.

If the ARRL wants the DXCCprogram to be respected, then I suggest they make a real change and stick to it. Make a DXCC program based on real countries plus remote territories. Thats it. No miles, no separation, nothing. Let the politcal world decide, not an advisory panel who sets arbitrary limits and separations. This way, you will never have to change it. Never. The only changes will happen because of global changes. And these arent decided by committee.

Lets see what kind of comments I get on this one.....

Peter, KC1QF

==========

Peter,

I tend to agree, mostly. This comes from someone who is currently sitting at around 325 current "countries" (I need cards that count from Libya, Tromelin, and Andaman and Nicobar). To my way of thinking, only real countries should count as countries. Alaska and Hawaii are not countries. Peter I is a rock off the coast of Antarctica, not a country. Desecheo is a wildlife preserve, not a country. The American Virgin Islands are not a country. Neither is Puerto Rico (but that's another story).

I haven't really thought about remote territories. However, I suspect this is where we got started with what constitutes a country in the first place! Could be wrong though -- it happened long before my time. My inclination is to go just with real countries and not open the door for starting this madness all over again.

73,
Bob K2PH

--

| Bob Schreibmaier K2PH | UUCP: ...!att!mtdcr!bob |
| AT&T Bell Laboratories | Internet: bob@mtdcr.att.com |

| Middletown, N.J. 07748 | ICBM: 40o21'N, 74o8'W |

==========

Peter -
    I have chased DX for more than 35 years...have 5BDXCC and my TOP OF THE HONOR ROLL plaque...and I can't make any sense out of an awful lot of the things we call countries. I have long thought that DXCC would still attract plenty of hams (maybe even more) if the list really made sense. But I wouldn't bet a rejected QSL card that we will ever see any really sensible changes toward a meaningful and consistent understanding of the DXCC criteria.
    Thanks for your posting and your thoughts. -Dave- K9FN

==========

Peter,

To tell you the truth, I'm not sure how many were "real" QSOs. As you know, most DX QSOs are signal report, QTH, name, wx, rig, 73. I worked a lot of my countries with that format. Without thinking, I would suspect that maybe half of my countries were worked in DXpedition format. 59, next. 59, next. I tend to make that QSO and not think much about it afterwards. Sometimes, I'll get out an atlas and find out where exactly that place was. Sometimes not.

Hmmm... seems I've gotten awfully cavalier about this in my old age!
I wonder if that is a common phenomenon?

73,
Bob K2PH

==========

I agree. Perhaps you also want to send your answer to the DX circuit so others can see it. And by the way congrats. However, I wonder the following:

from all the QSOs you have had to make up 325, how many were real QSOs and how many were 59s. Did you learn more about the place after the QSO or not?
Peter, KC1QF
pve@dg13.cec.be

==========

I think you nailed it, Peter.

We are supposed to work them. WE don't tell THEM if they are a country or not.

I've been absent from hamming and DXing for about three years. I returned to a dicsussion of the status of a semi-submerged reef?

I think when you have worked all these real countries on all bands, or any way you wish, you should enjoy this accomplishment, put your award up on the wall, then take your lady out for dinner or play with your grandchild. You did it! Now, do something else.

73 ...
Bob K5SIV 153-2401@MCIMAIL.COM

==========

> My inclination is to go just with real countries and not open the door for starting this madness all over again.
>
> 73, Bob K2PH

==========

There are indeed awards based on "nations", WorldRadio or something similar runs one. There is also a "Worked all UN Countries" award, this is listed in the K1BV awards directory. I got something like Certificate #5, which tells you not that it is hard to do, just that it is not a popular award. But it's there if you want it.

Actually, the UN list of "countries" has almost as many quirks and inconsistencies as the DXCC list.

I type as one who is not on the DXXCC Horror Roll. I don't even have the Hoogovens-Estel Steel Award for working hams who perform shift work at the blast furnace in Ijmuiden (Netherlands) - PAs work 10 members working on 4 different shifts. As Dave Barry would say, I am not making this up (p. 119 of my K1BV directory).

Derek AA5BT, G3NMX
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 16:37:29 GMT
From: ehare@arrl.org (Ed Hare (KA1CV))
Subject: HF rig turns off the VCR??

In article <Cx3sK1.EIp@tandem.com> hausman@patch.tandem.com (hausman_john) writes:

: >Has anyone ever seen anything like this? My transmitter (on certain
: >frequencies) causes the VCR to stop playing.

Many of these problems are caused by common-mode pickup on the coaxial cable or antenna feedline hooked up to the VCR. (A simple explanation is that a common-mode signal is the signal picked up on the shield of the coax, or by both wires of the twin-lead antenna.) Common-mode pickup is also sometimes a problem on the AC wiring.

A quick diagnosis: disconnect the antenna or cable from the VCR. If the problem goes away, it is clearly coming down the antenna lead or cable. Then, if it is a coaxial cable, touch the ground of the F connector on the cable to the ground of the F receptacle on the VCR, without screwing it back on. If the problem reoccurs, it is almost certainly common-mode.

If that is the case, you can cure it by disconnecting the antenna or cable input while in playback, or by putting a common-mode choke on the cable or feedline. The file rfisourc.txt on the ARRL info@arrl.org server (or at the FTP site at oak.oakland.edu) tells you where to buy one. You can also make a common-mode choke from a F-240-43 ferrite core; wrap about 10 turns of the coaxial cable or feedline onto the ferrite core.

If worse comes to worse, try a common-mode choke on the AC line, along with a differential-mode (brute-force) AC line filter (Radio Shack catalog 15-1111).

If the VCR is connected to an antenna, a high-pass filter will often work in place of the common-mode choke. On a cable system, a high-pass filter is not needed unless there is a severe leak in the cable.

73 from ARRL HQ, Ed
--
Ed Hare, KA1CV, ARRL Laboratory, 225 Main, Newington, CT 06111
203-666-1541 ehare@arrl.org

Date: Sat, 1 Oct 1994 23:12:14 GMT
From: rwc@flare.syd.ips.oz.au (Regional Warning Centre)
Subject: IPS Daily Report - 01 October 94

SUBJ: IPS DAILY SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL REPORT
ISSUED AT 01/2330Z OCTOBER 1994 BY IPS RADIO AND SPACE SERVICES
FROM THE REGIONAL WARNING CENTRE (RWC), SYDNEY.
SUMMARY FOR 01 OCTOBER AND FORECAST FOR 02 OCTOBER - 04 OCTOBER

1A. SOLAR SUMMARY
Activity: very low

Flares: none.

Observed 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number : 75/13

GOES satellite data for 30 Sep
       Daily Proton Fluence >1 MeV: 3.3E+05
       Daily Proton Fluence >10 MeV: 1.4E+04
       Daily Electron Fluence >2 MeV: 5.9E+07 (normal)
       X-ray background: A2.0
Fluence (flux accumulation over 24hrs)/ cm2-ster-day.

1B. SOLAR FORECAST

	02 Oct	03 Oct	04 Oct
Activity	Very low	Very low	Very low
Fadeouts	None expected	None expected	None expected

Forecast 10.7 cm flux/Equivalent Sunspot Number for 02 Oct: 75/13

2A. MAGNETIC SUMMARY
Geomagnetic field at Learmonth: quiet

Estimated Indices : A	K	Observed A Index 30 Sep
Learmonth 5	3211 1111	
Fredericksburg 3		5
Planetary 3		5

Observed Kp for 30 Sep: 2222 1111
2B. MAGNETIC FORECAST

DATE	Ap	CONDITIONS
02 Oct	10	Quiet to unsettled
03 Oct	10	Quiet to unsettled
04 Oct	20	Unsettled to active

COMMENT: Minor storm levels are expected 4-5 October due to coronal hole.

3A. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION SUMMARY

	LATITUDE BAND		
DATE	LOW	MIDDLE	HIGH
01 Oct	normal	normal	normal

PCA Event : None.

3B. GLOBAL HF PROPAGATION FORECAST

	LATITUDE BAND

```
DATE        LOW            MIDDLE         HIGH
02 Oct      normal         normal         fair
03 Oct      normal         normal         fair
04 Oct      normal         fair           poor
HF Comms are expected to be degraded during interval 4-5
October, particularly at high lats.
------------------------------------------------------------
4A. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC SUMMARY
       Observed
DATE   T-index  MUFs at Sydney
01 Oct    26    near predicted monthly values

Predicted Monthly T-index for October: 20

4B. AUSTRALIAN REGION IONOSPHERIC FORECAST
DATE   T-index  MUFs
02 Oct    25    Near predicted monthly values
03 Oct    25    Near predicted monthly values
04 Oct    20    Near predicted monthly values
COMMENT: Degraded HF comms expected 5-6 October due to anticipated
coronal hole induced disturbance. Ionospheric response to anticipated
magnetic activity may be stronger during this rotation due to change of season.

--
IPS Regional Warning Centre, Sydney       |IPS Radio and Space Services
RWC Duty Forecaster   tel: +61 2 4148329  |PO Box 5606
Recorded Message      tel: +61 2 4148330  |West Chatswood NSW 2057
email: rwc@ips.oz.au  fax: +61 2 4148331  |AUSTRALIA

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Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 07:56:01 +0000
From: Mike@g4kfk.demon.co.uk (Mike Gathergood)
Subject: Liscense....

> License "L-I-C-E-N-S-E" :-)

Don't you mean L-I-C-E-N-C-E ?

At least that's what it says on mine!

73
Mike
G4KFK

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 20:40:46 GMT

From: phb@syseng1.melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock)
Subject: No code Techs and CW...

ryanm@u.washington.edu (Ryan Mcneilly) writes:

>going around. If it wern't for the no code TECH I would not be a ham
>since I didn't have the patience or desire to learn it in the beginning.
>The NCT (No-Code-Tech) gave me an easy avenue into ham radio. However,
>now I desire to get onto HF. My solution is not to petition the FCC to
>grant NCT access to HF but to learn code. I think it is necessary to
>have hurdles at each increase in privlages to make people move forward,
>and to learn more than they previously did. I plan on following the
>rules rather than changing them. I don't see myself using CW very much
>when I first get on HF, but QRP holds my facination. Since QRP is best in
>CW I will probably be using it in the future.

     Good for you! It was exactly with the hope that hams like yourself would *wish* to advance that the NCT was created in the first place.

>Slaming the NCT as lazey is a dumb approach. All I needed was a regional

     It's worse than that; it's petty, destructive, and reflects on the lack of character of those who participate in it.

>I would suggest showing new NCT hams what HF offers in CW, voice, data,
>and video rather than shame them. Shaming me has the opposite effect on
>me then what was desired, I get in your face and slam back. I won't go

     Two comments: First, your suggestion is excellent, and that is exactly what the *real* amateur radio operators are doing, quietly and behind the scenes in many cases. As for the "network prowlers" and "phone band whiners", don't engage in *their* tactics by "slamming back." All they want is for someone to "notice" them, so just go your own way and seek out the good guys when you need help. There are a lot more of them around than you realize.

>I may not get it till Jan or Feb but I am working on it! --Ryan

     And when you do get on HF, drop me an e-mail and we'll schedule a nice, leisurely CW QSO and I'll try to show you that it can be a very pleasant way to communicate - not the only way, to be sure, but a good way nevertheless.

73 DE K4MSG (since '57)

(|_|) Paul H. Bock, Jr. K4MSG   Internet: pbock@melpar.esys.com
 | |) Principal Systems Engineer Telephone: (703) 560-5000 x2062

"You can have my bug when you can pry my cold, dead fingers from
around it....." - anonymous radiotelegraph operator

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 10:48:00 GMT
From: oopdavid@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu (D.RODMAN)
Subject: QSL INFO: V26X,V26Y,V26Z

The Western New York DX Association announces the following QSL
information for the mini-DXpedition to Antigua. V26X is QRT.
V26Y & V26Z are QRV for one week more.

V26X via N2HIW
V26Y via W2KKZ
V26Z via WF2S

73, Dave KN2M

Date: 4 Oct 1994 17:05:34 GMT
From: eckman@eos1.larc.nasa.gov (Richard Eckman)
Subject: Scarborough Reef - DXCC status

I just received the new issue of "QRZ DX", a DX information
weekly bulletin, which contained an open letter from
Chip Margelli, K7JA, regarding Scarborough Reef and its
DXCC status. In the letter, Chip implores active DXers to
open discussion on the issue. I feel compelled to add a few words.
Recently, the DXAC voted to change the DXCC rules in
an attempt to define a minimum size for a DXCC country.
I imagine that this was due to the Scarborough application
and the potential for similar applications for DXCC country status.
I've been struck by the
strange attitudes of many hams towards the DXCC institution.
It's certainly a worthly goal for a DXer to work and verify
100 countries. Some may argue it's too easy these days,
given the plethora of "countries" to choose from. Yet, there
seems to be no end to the hams with their compasses and rulers
seeking to find yet another speck of rock as a potential
candidate for DXCC status. To me, this is a pity. It brings
the concept of DXCC into ridicule, particularly from non-DXers
when frivilous, ill-considered applications are brought
before the DXAC for consideration. There is enough political
volatility in the world to ensure that new DXCC countries
will continue to be formed (and perhaps deleted) as countries

fracture or otherwise redefine themselves. It seems unnecessary to "help" the process along by finding a rock in the Pacific to call a new DXCC "country".

  Chip's arguments for the acceptance of Scarborough Reef seem to center around the Chinese Radio Sport Association's efforts in organizing the recent DXpedition. The CRSA's efforts are certainly commendable, but I fail to see how the acceptance/non-acceptance of the reef's DXCC status will impact on the future of Chinese or Asian ham radio growth. The argument seems wholly fallacious.

  Chip states that Scarborough "clearly fell within the DXCC country qualificiation specifications." But the reef is barely more than a few rocks, sometimes above water at low tide. To accept such a landmass as a DXCC country is lunacy and invites tremendous potential abuse from a myriad of future applications for any rock that meets the minimum land separation requirements from its parent country. I'm personally thrilled that the DXAC voted to revise country size requirements before this issue gets entirely out of hand.

  I'm all for working another new DXCC country. But, let's use some common sense and not warp the rules of the DXCC.

Richard Eckman KO4MR
Hampton, VA
eckman@eos1.larc.nasa.gov

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 07:51:10 +0000
From: Mike@g4kfk.demon.co.uk (Mike Gathergood)
Subject: Yaesu 5200- How do u like?

Hi Bill.

I have been using an FT-5200 with the remote head option for about a year now. I'm afraid I can't recommend them for the following reasons:

1/ I feel that I was totally misled about the function of the remote head. Although the head can be easily detached from the head mount, the transceiver needs to be unscrewed from the remote cable. Worse still, the securing screws aren't 'captive' types, and are therefore easily lost. Can anybody explain the sense in designing a transceiver with a quick-release head, but no quick-release transceiver?

2/ If you find (as I did) that the 3 metre cable ain't long enough, you can't just buy the longer cable - Yaesu only sell the longer cable with another remote head unit. Serves me right for buying a new car I 'spose!

3/ The transmitted audio of the FT-5200 is awful. I've taken the rig back
   to the importers, but the best they could do was to crank up the peak
   deviation to 8 KHz - any less and my dulcet tones weren't audible to
   other mobiles above their own vehicle noise.

4/ The receive performance, particularly on UHF, is atrocious. 70cm is
   unusable in the centre of London due to breakthrough from other
   services on UHF (taxis, couriers, broadcast links, etc...) Even
   locally (a small village on the outskirts of Slough), 2m suffers
   from breakthrough from a paging system.

5/ A fault that I've not yet experienced myself, but has been reported
   by several friends - they have a nasty habit of popping their front
   panel lamps if you start the car while the rig is switched on. Having
   had previous Yaesu rigs that have totally locked up (FT-230 and
   CPU-2500) when starting the car, I always switch the rig off first.

73
Mike
G4KFK

Sysop - The CQ Centre BBS - 2:252/320
Node 1 - 44 753 595468
Node 2 - 44 753 592726

Date: Tue, 4 Oct 1994 17:45:07 GMT
From: dbushong@wang.com (Dave Bushong)

References<1994Sep30.172734.23514@news.csuohio.edu>
<lestrade.780958492@Ra.MsState.Edu>, <Cx3HH4.7Co@pica.army.mil>
Subject: Re: Radio Shack Violation

mellis@ramcad.pica.army.mil (Mark Ellis) writes:

>In article <lestrade.780958492@Ra.MsState.Edu>, lestrade@Ra.MsState.Edu
>(John Patrick Lestrade) writes:

>>Is it any more of a `violation' for someone to pick up an ht on the rs
>>counter and `kerchunk' a repeater as it is for someone who does NOT have
>>a driver's license to start the engine of a car in a showroom?
>---
>Start the car? No. Drive the car? Yes.

>If you transmit on the thing (the radio, not the car, smarty) without
>a license, you are in violation. If you kerchunk a repeater, without

>identifying, license or not, you are also in violation. Although that
>only applies to license holders, since if you didn't have a license, what's
>to identify?
>   ....Mark

The reason for identifying is for the purpose of clearly making the
source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving
the transmissions.

If you wanted to follow the ID rule, you could always say "This is
(read the name off of the Radio Shack employee's name tag) testing at
Radio Shack". I'll bet that would get the transmitter disabled.

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Dave Bushong
OPEN/image Recognition Products

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #1095
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